THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • SEPTEMBER 18, 2023 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 16 • LATE CITY EDITION

(TOP) Indian team celebrate after winning the 2023 Asia Cup at the R Premadasa Stadium, Colombo on Sunday. Mohammed Siraj bowled seven overs on the trot to take six wickets, helping his team dismiss Sri Lanka for 50 in 15.2 overs | AFP

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SIRAJ FORCES SL TO SUBMISSION

50-over game turns into 50-run affair for India as they win their eighth Asia Cup title

FIROZ MIRZA @ Colombo

IT was quite an unusual sight — for the first time in the tournament, the R Premadasa Stadium was packed for the Asia Cup final on Sunday between co-hosts Sri Lanka and India. As the drama started unfolding in the middle, there was another unusual sight — the scoreboard. The wicket section was rotating faster than the runs and by the time the heavens opened up again later in the evening, the match was already over; in less than three hours. The 50-over match turned into a 50-run affair after Mohammed Siraj's inspired spell skittled Sri Lanka out to give India a modest 51-run target. Almost as if Rohit Sharma & Co did not want to go into another reserve day after a delayed start.

In a span of 24 balls, Siraj blew away the Sri Lankan batting. The pacer started with a maiden over and followed it up with four wickets off his next six balls reducing Sri Lanka to 12/5. He ran through the top-order and claimed his first ODI fifer (6/21) in the fifth over as the co-hosts were bundled out in 15.2 overs. India openers did the rest, chasing down the target in just 6.1 overs.

With the ODI World Cup on horizon, India couldn't have asked for a better end to this event — winning Asia Cup after five years. PTI

India's trophy drought ends

After five years, the Men in Blue won their first multi-team tournament, putting an end to the long wait. It should give them a morale boost ahead of all-important World Cup

16 Mohammed Siraj took five wickets in just 16 deliveries, the joint-quickest with Chaminda Vaas and USA's Ali Khan, since 2002

Chorus for women's bill in all-party meet

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

THE all-party meeting convened by the government on the eve of the five-day special Parliament session witnessed several parties, including from the ruling NDA and the opposition INDIA bloc, demanding that the long-pending Women's Reservation Bill be passed during the special session.

After the all-party meet, Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said the government will take an "appropriate decision at an appropriate time" on the demand.

Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury said the party also wants pressing issues such as caste census, price rise, and unemployment to be discussed in the special session. The bill seeks to ensure one-third of all seats reserved for women in the Lok Sabha and state Assembly elections.

Cong unveils six guarantees for poll-bound Telangana

B KARTHEEK @ Hyderabad

STATING that it was her dream to see a Congress government in Telangana, former AICC president Sonia Gandhi on Sunday announced "six guarantees" the party would implement if voted to power in the State.

Addressing a gathering at Hyderabad, Sonia said, "We will introduce the Mahalakshmi scheme, offering ₹2,500 financial assistance to all women, supply of gas cylinders at ₹500 and free travel for women on TSRTC buses across the State."

She emphasised that these guarantees were designed to fulfil the people's aspirations and pledged to deliver on each of them without fail. Her announcement came after the extended CWC meeting, which covered various topics including State Assembly elections, particularly Telangana, Lok Sabha polls, special Parliament session, party discipline and other pressing matters.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge flanked by Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi during the second day of CWC meeting in Hyderabad on Sunday | PTI

Leading up to the Karnataka Assembly elections, the Congress had made five similar promises, including free transportation in State-run bus services and financial benefits, and recorded a victory.

Now, the party has adopted a similar strategy by introducing the six guarantees tailored to the sociopolitical circumstances in Telangana, in contrast to the existing welfare schemes under the BRS government.

Rahul Gandhi accused the BRS government of plundering public funds. AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge recounted how Congress, under the leadership of Nehru and Patel, merged Hyderabad State comprising Telangana parts of Karnataka and Marathwada.

Not enough storage, can't release water to TN: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Kalaburagi

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah on Sunday said the reservoirs in the Cauvery river basin do not have enough storage to release water to Tamil Nadu.

"We are filing an appeal before the Supreme Court, briefing it as to why Karnataka could not implement the orders of the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA). Karnataka needs more than 106 tmcft of water in Cauvery river if we have to release water to Tamil Nadu. Karnataka needs 30 tmcft for drinking water purposes, 70 tmcft to save standing crops and 3 tmcft for industries. But as on date, we only have 53 tmcft," he said.

He termed former chief minister BS Yediyurappa's statement that Karnataka has released water to Tamil Nadu as politically motivated. All the previous governments, including Yediyurappa's, released water to the neighbouring state when they were in power, he added.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah along with Minister Priyank Kharge at a press conference in Kalaburagi on Sunday | KPN

"In a normal year, Karnataka used to release 177.25 tmcft of water. So far, we have released 37.7 tmcft. Let the former chief minister tell us where we have released 99 tmcft to Tamil Nadu. The CWMA has suggested that we release 500 cusses of water to Tamil Nadu. But we have not released it as we do not have sufficient storage," he added. P4

The New Indian Express
Wishes its readers a
Happy Ganesha Chaturthi
Our offices and press will remain closed today & there will be no issue of the paper on Tuesday

Qatar may release navy men by Nov

YESHI SELI @ New Delhi

EIGHT retired naval officers, who have been in solitary confinement in Doha for the past one year on charges of passing secrets to Israel, may return home by Diwali, according to an official in the know.

"In the recent past, there has been hushed talks of a possible repatriation of these eight officers to India by Diwali," the official said. Until it happens one cannot celebrate, he added. The naval officers, who are facing trial in Doha, have the next court hearing on October 3.

CONTINUED ON: P8

Woman SI's son doing bike stunt kills farmer

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mysuru

A 68-year-old farmer was killed after the son of a woman police sub-inspector from Nanjangud ran him over while doing bike stunts at Himmavu in Nanjangud taluk on Saturday.

It was only recently that the accused, a minor son of Nanjangud Traffic PSI Yasmeen Taj, had been arrested and released on bail for doing bike stunts on the Mysuru-Ooty highway.

The police said the minor was again doing stunts on his bike at the Himmavu Industrial Area on Saturday evening.

He crashed into Guruswamy (68) and Govindaraju (35), residents of Himmavu, who were sitting on the roadside grazing their cattle near Asian Paints factory.

Guruswamy, who sustained severe head injuries, died on the spot, while Govindharaju escaped with minor injuries.

CONTINUED ON: P5

Family of four dies of asphyxiation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

In a tragic incident, four members of a family died in their sleep near Doddaballapur on the outskirts of Bengaluru on Sunday night. The police suspect that they died of asphyxiation as they had lit charcoal in a tin to ward off mosquitoes in the labour shed, where there was no ventilation.

The incident occurred at Holeyarahalli in Doddabelavangala of Doddaballapura taluk. The deceased have been identified as Kale Saraki (50), his wife Lachummi Saraki (48), their 16-year-old son Kushal Saraki and Kale's second wife Phool Kumari, aged between 35 and 40 years. The family was from Alipurduar in West Bengal and had been living in and around Bengaluru for the last 15-16 years. P5

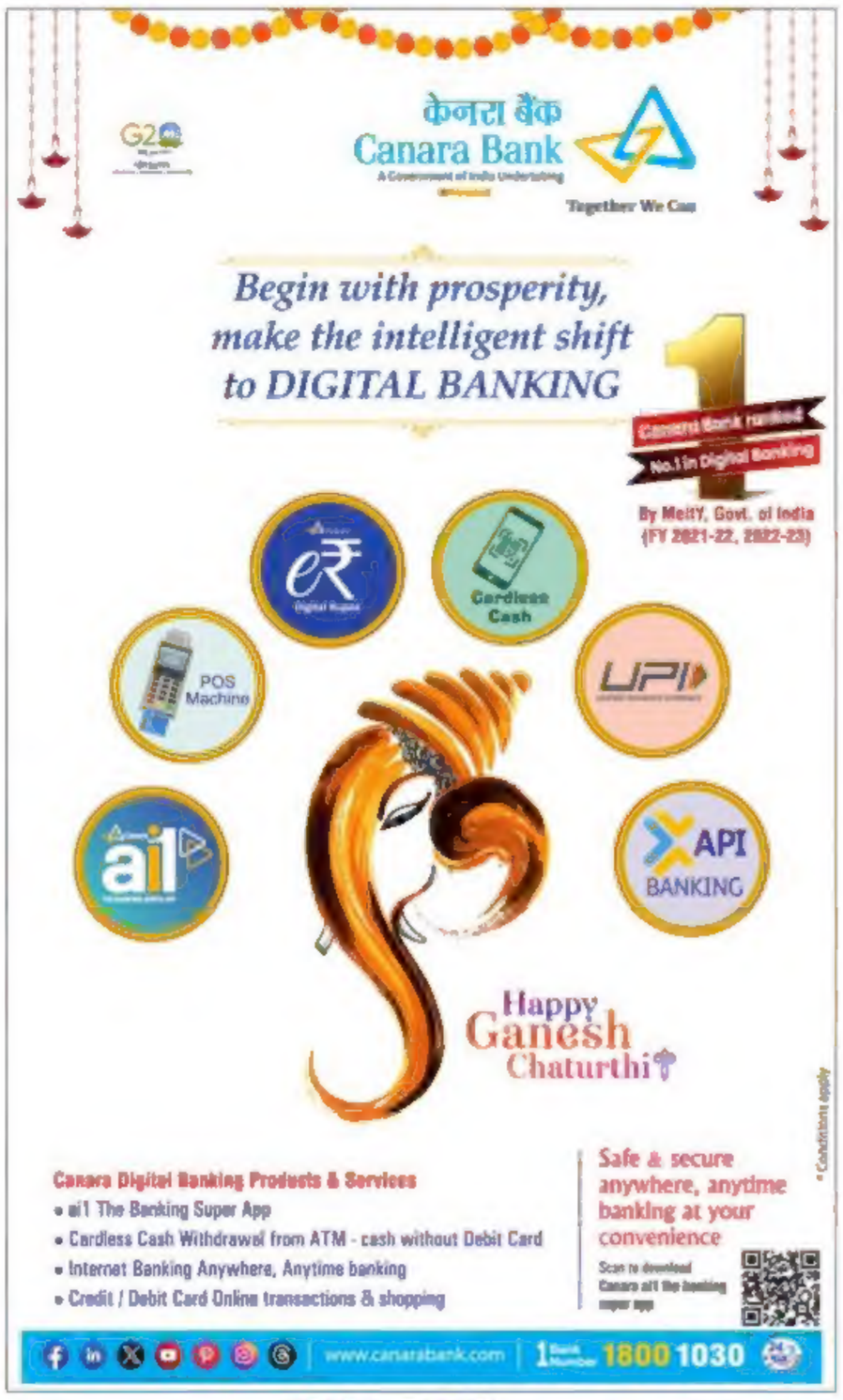
EXPRESS READ

Armyman abducted, killed in Manipur

Guwahati: An Army soldier, Sepoy Serto Thangthang Korn, who was on leave, was found dead in Manipur on Sunday, a day after he was abducted by some armed men. P8

Modi inaugurates PM Vishwakarma

New Delhi: PM Narendra Modi after launching the "PM Vishwakarma" on Sunday said the scheme will ameliorate the economic conditions of traditional artisans and craftsmen.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